

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for configuring a network access device, said method comprising the
2 steps of:
- 3 storing, in a data storage card, configuration settings compatible with the
4 network access device;
- 5 loading said configuration settings into the network access device from said
6 data storage card; and
- 7 configuring the network access device using said configuration settings
- 8 such that network communication is established between the network access device
9 and a network application service provider.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of configuring an access
2 multiplexer in communication with the network access device.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said access multiplexer comprises a digital
2 subscriber line access multiplexer.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of configuring a subscriber
2 management system in communication with said access multiplexer.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of storing said configuration settings
2 comprises the step of inserting said data storage card into a data storage card writer.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of loading said configuration settings
2 comprises the step of inserting said data storage card into a data storage card reader in
3 the network access device.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said data storage card comprises a memory and an
2 operating system.

1 10 The method of claim 1 wherein said step of storing configuration settings is
2 performed by a member of the group consisting of a network operator and an
3 application service provider.

1 12. The method of claim 1 wherein said configuration settings comprises voice and
2 data configuration settings.

1 14. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of setting a permanent virtual
2 circuit for a virtual path identifier/virtual channel identifier pair.

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3 a data storage card writer in communication with a network application
4 service provider, such that said network application service provider
5 can store configuration settings for the subscriber into a data storage
6 card via said data storage card writer; and
7 a data storage card reader in communication with the network access
8 device, such that said data storage card reader can download said
9 configuration settings into the network access device from said data
10 storage card via said data storage card reader.

1 16. The system of claim 15 wherein said data storage card comprises a memory and
2 an operating system.

1 17. The system of claim 15 further comprising software that downloads said
2 configuration settings from said data storage card into the network access device.

1 18. The system of claim 17 wherein said software resides in the network access
2 device.

1 19. The system of claim 17 wherein said software resides in a computer in
2 communication with the network access device.

1 20. The system of claim 17 wherein said software comprises a diagnostic routine.

1 21. The system of claim 16 further comprising software that installs a private
2 encryption/decryption key in the network access device.

1 22. The system of claim 15 wherein said configuration settings comprise voice and
2 data configuration settings.

1 23. The system of claim 15 further comprising an access multiplexer for connecting
2 the network access device to an application service provider network.

1 24. The system of claim 23 further comprising a subscriber management system in
2 communication with said access multiplexer, said subscriber management system for
3 maintaining subscriber profiles.

1 25. The system of claim 23 wherein said configuration settings comprise
2 configuration information compatible with said access multiplexer.

1 26. The system of claim 23 wherein said access multiplexer comprises a digital
2 subscriber line access multiplexer.

1 27. A system for providing a subscriber access to a network application service, said
2 system comprising:

3 a network access device;
4 a data storage card having network application configuration settings
5 loaded therein;
6 a data storage card reader in communication with said network access
7 device, said data storage card reader for loading said configuration
8 settings from said active data storage card into said network access
9 device.

1 28. The system of claim 27 wherein said data storage card comprises a memory and
2 an operating system.

1 29. The system of claim 27 further comprising software that controls the loading of
2 said configuration settings into said network access device.

1 30. The system of claim 29 wherein said software resides in a computer in
2 communication with said network access device.

1 31. The system of claim 29 wherein said software comprises a diagnostic routine.

1 32. The system of claim 28 further comprising software that controls the installation
2 of a private encryption/decryption key in said network access device.

1 33. The system of claim 27 further comprising an access multiplexer for connecting
2 said network access device to an application service provider network.

1 34. The system of claim 33 wherein said access multiplexer comprises a digital
2 subscriber line access multiplexer.

1 35. The system of claim 27 wherein said configuration settings comprise voice and
2 data configuration settings.

1 36. The system of claim 27 further comprising a data storage card writer in
2 communication with the network application service, said data storage card writer for
3 storing said configuration settings in said data storage card.

1 37. A system for configuring a network access device suitable for providing a
2 subscriber access to a network application service, said system comprising:

3 a data storage card writer in communication with a network application
4 service provider, such that said network application service provider

5 can load configuration settings, diagnostic routines, and encryption
6 data for the subscriber into a smart card via said data storage card
7 writer;
8 a data storage card reader in communication with the network access
9 device, such that said data storage card reader can download said
10 configuration settings into the network access device from said
11 smart card via said data storage card reader; and
12 a digital subscriber line access multiplexer in communication with said
13 network application service provider and with said network access
14 device, for providing the subscriber access to the network
15 application service via the network access device.

1 38. The system of claim 37 further comprising a subscriber management system in
2 communication with said digital subscriber line access multiplexer, said subscriber
3 management system including a database for maintaining subscriber profiles.

1 39. The system of claim 37 wherein said configuration settings comprise voice and
2 data configuration settings.

1 40. The system of claim 37 wherein said encryption data comprises a subscriber
2 secret key.